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A NEGATIVE IMPACT REPORT OF A CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF
ITEM NO. R-945.8, SCOUR REPAIR,
MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, PEAFIELD, MISSOURI

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Memphis District

Jimmy D. McNeil
Staff Archeologist

March 1987

ABSTRACT

On 24 February 1987, an intensive cultural resources survey was conducted by the Environmental Analysis Branch of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Memphis District, over approximately 1.8 acres. The project is located in Mississippi County, Missouri, Township 26N, Range 1W, SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 19 of the Wickliffe Quadrangle. The proposed project includes repairing a scour area. A pedestrian survey failed to locate any prehistoric, historic, or architectural sites within the project right-of-way.

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INTRODUCTION

An intensive survey for cultural resources was conducted by Memphis District Archeologists, Mr. Jimmy McNeil and Mr. Doug Prescott on 24 February 1987, within the Peafield Levee Scour failure project right-of-way. The total project includes approximately 1.8 acres. The survey consisted of visual inspection of the exposed scour area and the exposed ground surface. No cultural resources was located within the project right-of-way. The pedestrian survey of this area is in accordance with requirements outlined in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665) and recommended to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Public Law 91-190)

Study Area and Project Description

The project is located in Mississippi County, Missouri, Township 26N, Range 1W, SE 1/4, NE 1/4 of Section 19 of the Wickliffe Quadrangle (Figure 1).

Waters released from the floodgates have eroded the existing revetment (Figure 2). The erosion has been caused by use of the pumping station and associated floodgates. In some places the erosion has occurred to a depth of greater than 1 meter below the existing top soil. The vertical profile showed that the area is fill materials. This area was filled and built up when the pumping station and floodgate was installed.

The area beside and behind the failure was plowed and had been rained on. This area was looked but no cultural items were found.

The proposed maintenance action includes lightly grading the failure bank to a stable incline and then covering the scour area with riprap. All equipment will be brought in over existing roads and across existing levees and berms. All work will be conducted from/on the existing levee and berms. Project right-of-way will extend 100 feet either side of the existing damaged area.

Environmental Setting

The project is located within the Mississippi Alluvial lowland of southeast Missouri which is the Mississippi Embayment of the Gulf Coast plain physiographic province (Steiermark 1963:xvi). The area is at the edge of an alluvial plain between Crowley's Ridge on the west and Sikeston Ridge to the east.

Today there are no large areas of woodlands remaining the area; however, there are scattered trees along roads and ditches. The trees are predominantly oak, elm, and sycamore.

Fauna present today includes racoon, fox, gray squirrel, fox squirrel and opossum. A large population of reptiles, amphibians, fish and birds are also found in the area.

Previous Research

Until recently, very little archaeological work has been conducted in the general area of this survey, and no work has been conducted in the immediate project area. Recent work within Mississippi County has been conducted by Chapman (1955), LeeDecker (1978), Spier (1955), and Williams (1964).

Results of the Records Search

As the area was so small no records search was conducted.

Survey Methodology and Results

The designated maintenance area right-of-way is approximately 1.8 acres in size. The entire area had been disturbed when the levee was originally built. The survey area extended a minimum of 100 feet on all sides of the existing damaged area. The vertical profile of the erosional feature was carefully checked for cultural traces and indicators. None were found. The non-eroded areas was walked over and visually checked. The plowed field that parallels parts of the right-of-way was visually checked. No cultural artifacts were found. The failure profile was checked for signs of cultural deposits, none were found. The failure profile exhibited mixed materials, indicating that it was all fill materials.

Conclusions

Based on an in-field cultural resources survey, no evidence of significant prehistoric, historic, or architectural resources exists within the direct impact zone of the proposed maintenance work.

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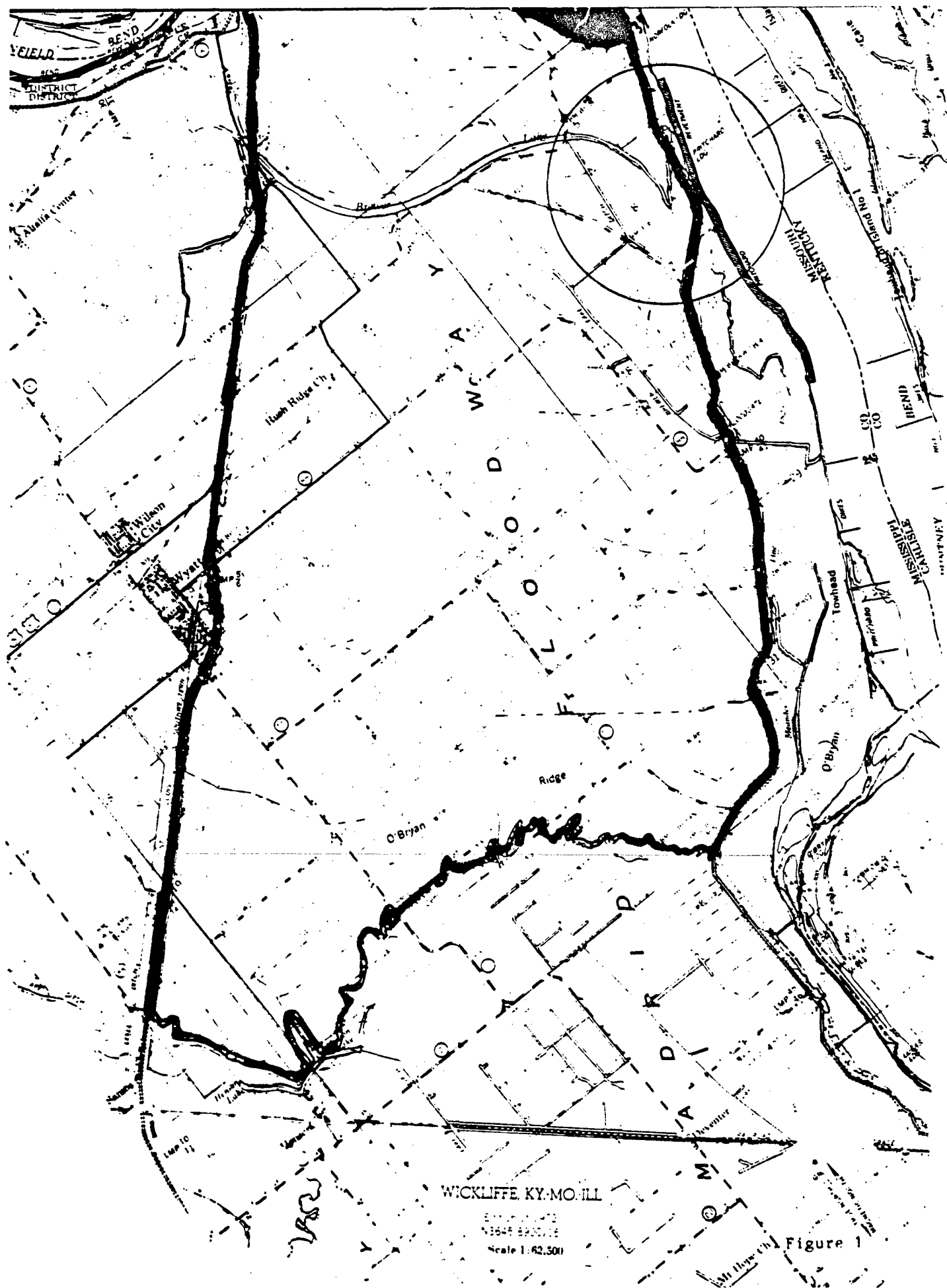
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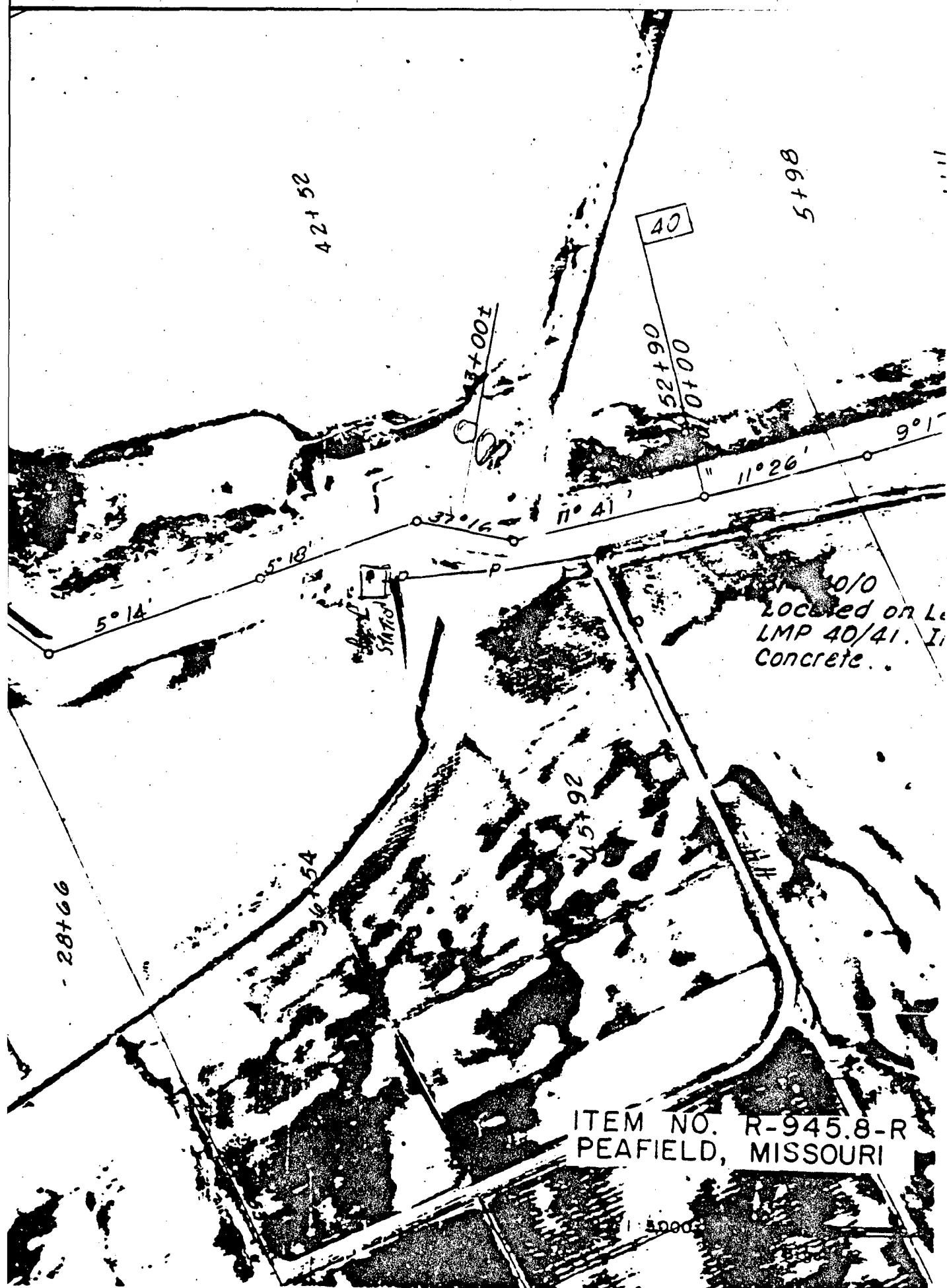
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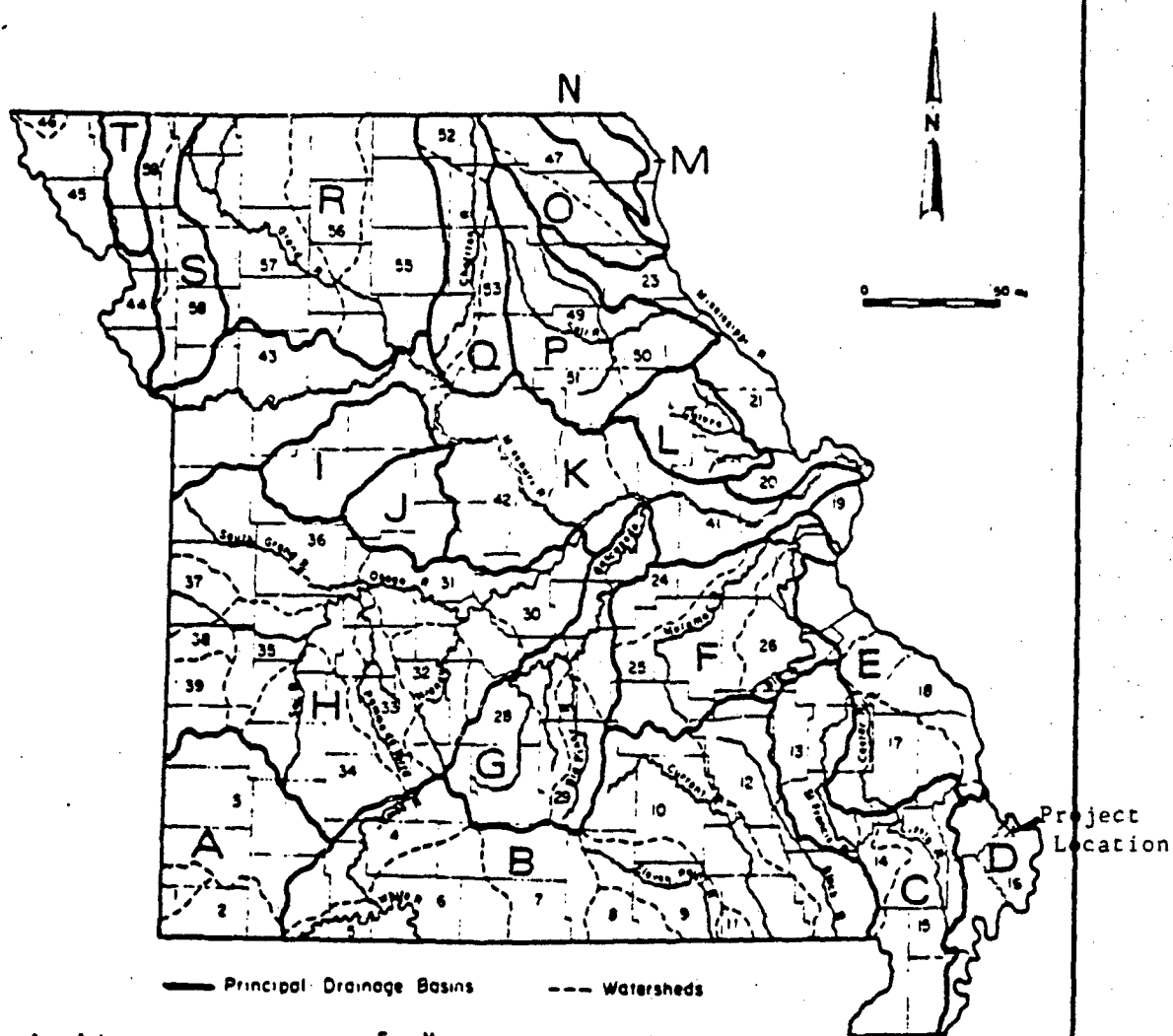
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|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| A. Arkansas | F. Meramec | L. Cuivre |
| 1. Lost Creek | 24. Bourbeuse | M. Des Moines |
| 2. Elk | 25. Meramec | N. Wyaconda/Fox |
| 3. Spring | 26. Big | O. Fabius |
| B. White | G. Gasconade | 47. North Fabius |
| 4. James | 27. Lower Gasconade | 48. South Fabius |
| 5. Table Rock | 28. Upper Gasconade | P. Salt |
| 6. White | 29. Big Piney | 49. North Fork |
| 7. North Fork | H. Osage | 50. Salt 1 |
| 8. Spring | 30. Lower Osage | 51. Salt 2 |
| 9. Eleven Point | 31. Lake of the Ozarks | Q. Chariton |
| 10. Current | 32. Niangua | 52. Upper Chariton |
| 11. Fourche Creek | 33. Pomme de Terre | 53. Lower Chariton |
| 12. Black | 34. Sac | 54. Middle/East Fork |
| C. St. Francis | 35. Upper Osage | R. Grand |
| 13. Upper St. Francis | 36. South Grand | 55. Grand 1 |
| 14. Lower St. Francis | 37. Marais des Cygnes | 56. Thompson |
| 15. Little River | 38. Little Osage | 57. Grand 2 |
| D. Lower Mississippi | 39. Marmaton | S. Platte |
| 16. Lower Mississippi | I. Blackwater | 58. Platte |
| E. Upper Mississippi | J. Lamine | 59. One Hundred & Two |
| 17. Whitewater/Castor | K. Missouri | T. Nodaway |
| 18. Mississippi 1 | 41. Missouri 1 | |
| 19. Mississippi 2 | 42. Missouri 2 | |
| 20. Mississippi 3 | 43. Missouri 3 | |
| 21. Mississippi 4 | 44. Missouri 4 | |
| 22. Mississippi 5 | 45. Missouri 5 | |
| 23. North River | 46. Nishnabotna | |

Figure 3